

Message Text

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63

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSC-01 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01

DRC-01 /096 W

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R 281812Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0433

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 15914

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AU, FR

SUBJECT: NEW AUSTRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

REF: PARIS 15608

1. IN REPORTING DESIGNATION OF NEW AUSTRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER, JUNE 27 LE MONDE QUOTES CHANCELLOR KREISKY AS SAYING THE APPOINTMENT WAS ONLY FOR THE CURRENT LEGISLATIVE TERM. LE MONDE SPECULATES THAT BY NAMING AMBASSADOR BIELKA TO THE POST, THE CHANCELLOR HOPED TO KEEP A FREE HAND TO RE-ASSIGN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY PORTFOLIO IN CASE THE SOCIALISTS LOSE THEIR ABSOLUTE MAJORITY IN THE ELECTIONS A YEAR FROM NOW AND SEEK AN ALLIANCE WITH THE LIBERALS. THE ARTICLE CLAIMS THERE WAS OPPOSITION AMONG MEMBERS OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY TO THE BIELKA APPOINTMENT.

2. WHEN AMBASSADOR BIELKA TOLD THE CHARGE OF HIS APPOINTMENT (REFTEL), HE SAID HE HAD BEEN PARTICULARLY PLEASED THAT CHANCELLOR KREISKY ASKED HIM TO TAKE THE POST SINCE THEY WERE NOT OF THE SAME PARTY. THEY HAD WORKED CLOSELY TOGETHER IN THE MINISTRY IN THE EARLY 60'S, HOWEVER, AND HE EXPRESSED GREAT ADMIRATION FOR THE CHANCELLOR. THE AMBASSADOR SAID HE HAD INTENDED TO
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TAKE A LONG LEAVE, BUT THAT THE CHANCELLOR'S REQUEST WAS

ONE THAT HE FELT HE COULD NOT REFUSE. ALTHOUGH HE MADE
NO REFERENCE TO POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS, HIS REMARKS TO
CHARGE APPEARED CONSISTENT WITH SPECULATION THAT HIS
MAY BE A RELATIVELY SHORT-TERM APPOINTMENT.
STONE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: golinofr
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TAGS: PFOR, AU, FR, (BIELKA)
To: STATE VIENNA
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